What's on!

Monday 28 October – WMAU Community Meeting
7pm AEDST (6.30pm SA, 6pm QLD, 5.30pm NT, 4pm WA). Enter the Community room at: https://wiki-media.blindsidenetworks.net

Agenda
• Report from the committee workshop weekend
• Reports from regional events and activities
• Tour of the new Trove private beta
• Competitions: Wiki Loves Monuments, Wiki Asia, Wiki Loves Science

With thanks to generous support from our host, Blindside Networks, Wikimedia Australia now has an online space available for meetings and training purposes. Members and partners who wish to attend, please contact us for details.

New committee for 2019–20

At the AGM in August we farewelled long-term committee members, Gideon Digby and Tom Hogarth. We welcomed Alex Lum as the incoming Vice-President and new committee members Jacinta Sutton and Matt Moore. Meet your new committee members here.

The new committee met in Melbourne over the weekend of 12 - 13 October, and successfully tackled a large agenda. We will report on this activity at the online Community meeting, Monday 28 October.

If you missed the AGM, the annual report is published. This includes links to the events of June 2019 including the inaugural Worlds of Wikimedia Conference at the University of Sydney, followed by a Community Conference. Conference presentations and videos are on the Wikimedia Australia website.

At the AGM we were also able to announce the news that Wikimedia Australia was successful in its second Simple Annual Plan Grant, receiving $33,750 AUD for our 2019-20 planned activities.

Survey of Australian editors

In order to ensure that our activities match the needs of the Australian community, we propose to request that a banner be shown to logged in editors from Australia inviting them to respond to a short survey about their interests and needs. We are trialling this survey first with members. Please fill out this short survey here.

Wikimania 2019

We were pleased to support Ingrid Cumming from Western Australia to attend Wikimania 2019 in Stockholm, Sweden, where her presentation on Noongarpedia was well attended.

Exciting news that Wikimania 2020 is a collaborative initiative of the East, South East Asia and Pacific (ESEAP) Wikimedia region. It will be held in Bangkok Fri 7 - Sunday 9 August 2020 with pre-conference events on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 August 2020.

Women in STEM Edit-a-thons

Despite the recent milestone as biographies of women on Wikipedia finally reached 18 per cent, the push to improve representation locally continues! Two major edit-a-thons were held recently in Sydney focusing on the representation of women in science, technology and engineering supported by Wikimedia Australia's Caddie Brain, Robert Myers with Gideon Digby.

In July, Franklin Women, Australia's only community for women working in health and medical research related careers, hosted an edit-a-thon at the University of Sydney. Women make up only 16% of Australia's STEM workforce, and their representation Wikipedia, hovers around the same percentage. Attended by 30 editors, together they learnt to edit Wikipedia and created 21 new articles! The full outcomes can be seen here.

Then in September the University of New South Wales hosted a Women in Science Edit-a-thon with about 18 students focusing on women scientists and engineers.

Apply for funding!

Wikimedia Australia offers financial assistance to members of the Australian Wikimedia community to enable their work on Wikimedia projects or other activities directly related to Wikimedia Australia's mission, which members may otherwise be unable to undertake. Fine the updated page and form here.

WikiCite

With a regional WikiCite event planned for Australia on Friday 14 February 2020, Wikimedia Australia hosted a small WikiCite seminar and discussion in Melbourne as part of DisruptEd 2019, RMIT University's Learning & Teaching Conference. Speakers included Alex Lum (Wikimedia Australia), Thomas Shafee (WikiJournal of Science) and Nicole Kearney (Biodiversity Heritage Library), who spoke about the exciting work underway using Wikidata to develop a bibliographic database and a knowledge graph of academic and literary citations. See also: Useful links shared during the event

WikiClubWest

Western Australian Wikimedians have been busy lately, with meetups and photography excursions. They have started a new form of meetup at the Spacecubed coworking space in the Perth CBD: a fortnightly hands-on workshop on Thursday evenings. Participants have worked on uploading photos from Fremantle harbour; improving Wikidata items about heritage places in WA; and generally organising the activities of the wiki-club (such as a new Phabricator project).

Upcoming WikiClubWest events include a stall at the Seniors' Recreation Council's 'Have a Go Day' and Perth Open House in November. As usual we'll be trying to get photographs of as many of these normally-closed places as possible.

All Wikimedians in Perth and surrounding areas are encouraged to come along to any of our events, and let us know what else they might be interested in. Stay in touch with us via the members discussion list, our page on Meta-Wiki, or via Twitter.

Wiki Loves Monuments 2019

Australia participated in the global [Wiki Loves Monuments](#) competition for the third time, over the month of September 2019. Judging is underway, and winners will be announced in the next WIkimedia newsletter.

Wiki Loves Earth Australia 2019

Winner of the Australian Wiki Loves Earth 2019 was [User:Alandean88](#) with a photograph of [Elebana Falls, Lamington National Park](#) in Queensland.

I was studying photography at the time I took it and kept things pretty simple. I used a good solid tripod, stopped down my lens to f/8, used a neutral density filter, a remote shutter release and exposed the image for around 2 minutes. I like to get as much right in camera as possible for the most natural looking image. This is especially important in a natural setting such as Lamington National Park. It's best to let nature speak for itself!

One of the top ten photographers hailed from Brazil. [User:Sovernigo](#) kindly shared the story behind his [Golden Uluru Sunset](#) photograph.

As a biologist, when I decided to travel to Australia, I looked up online for different kinds of landscapes - Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park was definitely one of them. So I took a plane with a cousin and her friend and we rented a car to reach Uluru several times. In one of these, the sun was about to set, so I had the chance to place myself right in front of the mount and wait for the exact instant I took this photo, while the shadows and sky tones were constantly changing. Then, at home I chose the best exposures, combined them into an HDR and did some basic Photoshop editing, which resulted in this final image.

Advice I would say for landscape photography is not to wait for having the best equipment before taking serious photos, as mine surely wasn't. Just put on a wide angle lens, frame your image symmetrically without any disturbing element, wait for the best lights (as during golden and blue hours), adjust the sensibility for the lowest possible ISO, use the sharpest aperture for your lens, don't let shaking occur either with a tripod or with a faster shutter speed, then take a few snaps and put them on a photo editor.

Coverage:

- [Australian researchers join global movement to improve visibility of women in STEM](#), ABC News, 26 July 2019
- [Boosting visibility of women in STEMM, one Wiki entry at a time](#), Sydney Morning Herald, 25 July 2019
- [Most Wikipedia profiles are about men - these women in Australia are hoping to change that](#), SBS, 25 July 2019
- [Combatting gender bias on Wikipedia](#), ABC Radio National, 25 July 2019
- [Wikipedia Is Sexist, But We're Trying To Fix It](#), 10 Daily, 24 August 2019

Hope to see you all at an event soon! Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for all the latest news.

All the best,
Your Wikimedia Australia Committee